

-46-

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An optical fiber having: a) a glass portion; and b) at least one protective coating layer disposed to surround the glass portion, the protective coating layer having a modulus of elasticity value between  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $+60^{\circ}\text{C}$  between 5MPa and 600 MPa, preferably not higher than 500 MPa, more preferably not higher than 450 MPa and much more preferably not higher than 300. Preferably the protective coating layer is a single protective coating layer which is disposed in contact with the glass portion.